

HEDGES ADVOCATES TRIAL CONVENTION

Relies on Preliminary Discussion to Neutralize Bad Primary Features.

VOTER COULD BETTER REGISTER HIS CHOICE

Says Plan Would Wrest Control from Machine Which Present Law Helps.

John E. Hedges, who is a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor this fall, wrote yesterday to William James, Jr., chairman of the Republican State Committee, urging the advisability of calling the committee to consider the plan of an unofficial state convention.

The function of such a convention, he said, would be to bring about a general session as to the most efficient way in which the party could aid in restoring a clean and vigorous state administration. Without such a convention to recommend candidates for state offices to be voted on at the primaries, he said, the picking of such candidates would become confused with local candidates.

"Theoretically," Mr. Hedges wrote, "the primary law gives freedom of action to the individual enrolled voter and destroys the influence of party leadership. Practically it increases the influence of political leaders, and will minimize the influence certainly for affirmative action of the individual enrolled voter."

A ticket made up at such a convention, he said, would not only not be a contraction of the spirit of the present direct primary law, but would enable the enrolled voter to make his opinion much more affirmative. The voter, he argued, would have the same opportunity to influence the selection of delegates to the unofficial convention as he would to select the candidates themselves on primary day.

He added: "In the second place, should the convention make an unworthy selection of candidates, in disregard of the sentiment of the party, the action of the convention so far from handicapping the individual voter in overruling the action of the convention on primary day has greatly facilitated the effective exercise of such a veto by crystallizing the sentiment of the party around perhaps two or three of the candidates most considered by the convention."

"For the reason I have referred to it is infinitely easier for an unorganized body of voters to act effectively against an undesirable choice than it is for such a body of voters to sift out the most desirable candidate from perhaps a dozen possible choices and combine effectively for his support."

Mr. Hedges said he thought now was the time to argue these general questions before party voters later in the season were subjected to the advocacy between the friends of candidates and the candidates themselves.

BANK NOT HELD FOR 362 FRAUD CHECKS

Appellate Division Finds Negligence by Insurance Company in Case of Dishonest Clerks.

Justice Greenbaum's order upholding the suit of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company to recover \$14,596 from the Mercantile National Bank paid out on checks misappropriated by two clerks of the insurance company, was reversed yesterday by the Appellate Division and a new trial ordered.

The record shows that the clerks, John W. Walker and Charles N. Bradford, had checks made out to some name, and then, endorsing the checks, they would have them cashed. Walker said in his confession: "I did it for the purpose of obtaining money myself. That was the idea." Bradford said that some of the names he used were suggested by signs that he saw in the street. Walker used one check to buy his rent, and with another he bought a piano. This system of fraud went on for three years without detection. The insurance company got a verdict in the Supreme Court. The bank appealed.

Justice McLaughlin, writing the majority opinion of the Appellate Division, said: "The plaintiff, however, did nothing for upward of three years, and the result was that these two dishonest clerks obtained 362 checks, put them into circulation and the same were paid by the defendant, concededly acting in good faith. A loss has been sustained which, if occasioned solely by plaintiff's negligence, should be borne by it, and the defendant is in position to assert such defense—this upon the theory that one who, by his own neglect, is responsible for the cause of the loss should bear it, instead of an innocent party."

The higher court said that the question was one which should have gone to the jury.

SAWYER'S WORK ON VIEW

Many Visit Exhibition in the Snedecor Gallery.

Forty-three paintings by Wells M. Sawyer, hung in the Snedecor Gallery, No. 167 West 44th street, are attracting the attention this week of connoisseurs and others interested in the work of American artists. Mr. Sawyer's paintings were first accepted by an international jury twenty-seven years ago, and since then they have been shown here and in Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago and St. Louis.

The exhibition, which continues until April 1, includes landscapes and marines. "Ripples at Sunset" occupies the place of honor among the landscapes. "The Old Farming Hole" and "October Haze" are prominent, while the marines include "At the Dock," "Waiting for Summer," "On the Coast" and "Ice on the Hudson."

Fire Rout 200 Families.

Fire, which did \$20,000 damage to the foundry of Thomas Halloran, at No. 10 to 12 Metropolitan avenue, Williamsburg, routed two hundred families early yesterday morning.

Andrew Kock, eighty-two years old, and his wife, Margaret, eighty, were carried out of their home, No. 23 Devos street, unconscious from smoke. Firemen found Mrs. Barbara Paine, an invalid, eighty-two years old, overcome at No. 52 Metropolitan avenue. All were attended by ambulance surgeons.

B. Altman & Co.

An Announcement

will shortly be made of the date set for the Exhibition of the

Paquin Collection d'Art

of Gowns, Wraps and Hats recently purchased by B. Altman & Co.

The Display of Spring Merchandise

prepared in anticipation of the Easter season, is unusually attractive. Especially interesting are the assortments for Women, Misses, Girls and Boys, featuring the newest styles and materials; also a very large and comprehensive stock of Men's Furnishings.

For TUESDAY,

March 24th

A Special Sale of Spring Suits for Misses and Small Women

has been prepared, presenting three entirely new models in smart, individual styles and the season's fashionable suitings and colors. These Suits will be offered at the exceptionally attractive price of

\$23.50

Also for TUESDAY,

March 24th

An Important Sale of Women's Silk Gowns for Afternoon and Evening

made in smart styles suitable for dancing.

The values offered in these Gowns will be very exceptional.



SPRING MERCHANDISE AT SPECIAL PRICES FOR TO-MORROW (MONDAY)

An Extraordinary Sale of Women's Three-piece Silk Suits

will present an unusual opportunity to secure the latest modes in smartly tailored Silk Suits at prices of special interest, as follows:

Three-piece Suits of Silk Poplin at \$50.00
Three-piece Suits of Silk Moire at 55.00
Three-piece Suits of Silk Taffeta at 60.00

(Among the Suits of Poplin and Taffeta are a number suitable for mourning.)

8,000 Pairs of Women's Short Glace Gloves

in white, black or tan, will be placed on sale at the extraordinarily low price of

68c. per pair.

Women's Silk Petticoats

in two desirable models, will be offered at the following attractive prices:

White Crepe de Chine Petticoats, lace trimmed; with gores of double thickness at front and back (designed especially for wearing with diaphanous gowns) at \$7.50
Washable Striped Silk Petticoats at 3.25

A Sale of Lace-trimmed Scrim Curtains

to be held in the Lace Curtain Department, on the Fourth Floor, will afford an opportunity to purchase attractive window furnishings for bungalows, country houses, apartments, etc., at exceptionally low prices.

Hemstitched Scrim Curtains, with lace edge, per pair \$1.00
Hemstitched Scrim Curtains, with Cluny insertion and plain hem per pair \$1.50
Hemstitched Scrim Curtains, with filet insertion and plain hem per pair \$2.25

A very complete and interesting assortment of new Curtains for Spring and Summer use is now being shown in the regular stock of this Department at reasonable prices.

Men's and Women's Silk Hosiery

will be on sale at unusual concessions from the regular prices.

Women's Black Silk Hose, with cotton tops and soles per pair 65c.
Women's Black Silk Hose per pair 95c.
Women's Extra Size Black Silk Hose, per pair \$1.00
Women's Silk Hose, in black, white and the leading Spring colors per pair \$1.35
Men's Black Silk Half-hose, per pair 55c.

Paris House Gowns and Negligees

Just received, are now being displayed in the Department for Women's House Gowns. Among them are exquisite creations from the ateliers of Robert, Premet, Goupy, Agnes, Margaine Lacroix and others, featuring beautiful materials and artistic color combinations. There are also Boudoir Gowns of real lace, and many charmingly simple effects in all-white and the delicate pastel tones, as well as a large variety of American-made House Gowns and Negligees for practical, everyday use.

Betalph Guaranteed Silk Hosiery

is shown in an entirely new assortment for Spring and Summer.

French Blouses

variously designed for wearing with the elaborate or practical tailored suit, are shown in a remarkably attractive selection which includes hand-made Blouses of every fashionable type and material and introduces the latest ideas in color combinations. The following will be found in the regular stock of the Women's Blouse Department at the prices quoted:

Lace Blouses \$18.00 to 35.00
Chiffon Blouses 16.50 to 62.00
Crepe de Chine Blouses \$9.50 to 55.00
Lingerie Blouses \$5.50 to 50.00
Crepe Blouses 12.50 to 38.00

Several Thousand Yards of French Cotton Ratine

will be on sale at the very special price of per yard 60c. This offering comprises French Ratine of fine quality, 47 inches wide, in white and the season's popular colors; and French Ratine, 41 inches wide, in all white and striped combinations of white-and-black, white-and-lavender, white-and-brown, and white-and-ciel blue.

An Exceptional Sale of Children's Washable Dresses

will offer, at very low prices, a special selection of Dresses for Spring and Summer wear, for girls from 6 to 14 years. The newest styles and materials are featured, many of the frocks being cleverly adapted from imported models.

Dresses of plain or fancy chambray at \$1.75
Dresses of figured crepe or plaid gingham at \$2.85
Dresses of French linen or Japanese crepe at \$3.50
Dresses of embroidered or braided linen at \$5.00
Dresses of embroidered or figured voile at \$6.50
Dresses of Dresden figured challis at 7.25

All Charged or Paid Purchases will be forwarded Free of Charge by mail, express or freight to points within 300 miles of New York.
All Charged or Paid Purchases not exceeding Twenty (20) pounds in weight will be forwarded Free of Charge to any part of the United States.

Thirty-fourth Street

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Thirty-fifth Street